

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

steps of:

5

1. A method for preserving plant tissue, said method comprising the
 - (a) obtaining a dehydrated plant tissue; and
 - (b) saturating said plant tissue with a saturation mix.

2. The method of claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:
 - (a) applying a coating mix to said saturated plant tissue.

10

tissue comprising:

3. The method of claim 2, said step of obtaining a dehydrated plant
 - (a) obtaining a fresh-cut plant tissue;
 - (b) forming said fresh-cut plant tissue; and
 - (c) dehydrating said fresh-cut plant tissue.

15

4. The method of claim 3, wherein said step of dehydrating said fresh cut plant tissue comprises at least one method selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) burying dehydrating method;
- (b) burying and sealing dehydrating method;
- (c) hang-drying dehydrating method;
- (d) microwaving dehydrating method;
- (e) chemical dehydrating method; and
- (f) freeze-drying dehydrating method.

20

25

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising a cleaning step comprising at least one step selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) vibrating said plant tissue to remove said dehydrating material;

FOOTNOTES: 86952660

- (b) air-brushing said plant tissue to remove said dehydrating material; and
- (c) brushing said plant tissue to remove said dehydrating material.

5 6. The method of claim 2, said step of saturating said plant tissue with said saturation mix further comprising the steps of:

- (a) draining said saturation mix from said saturated plant tissue; and
- (b) drying said saturated plant tissue.

10 7. The method of claim 6, said step of coating said plant tissue further comprising the steps of:

- (a) applying a coating mix to said saturated plant tissue;
- (b) draining said coating mix from said coated plant tissue; and
- (c) drying said coated plant tissue.

15 8. The method of claim 7, wherein said saturation mix and said coating mix are composed of at least one mix selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) solution composed of derivatives of natural rubber;
- (b) natural rubber solution;
- (c) any solution imparting a rubber like flexibility; and
- (d) a silicone styrene elastomer resin mix.

20 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said silicone styrene elastomer resin mix is selected from the group consisting of:

- 25 (a) copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene;
- (b) block copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene;
- (c) copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene mixed with a rubber vulcanizing agent;
- 30 (d) copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene mixed with an antioxidant;

099756952660

Handwritten signature and initials.

- (e) copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene mixed with a UV stabilizer;
- (f) PLASTI DIP®;
- (g) PLASTI DIP® UV STABLE; and
- (h) any combination of copolymers of dimethylsiloxane and polystyrene and a rubber vulcanizing agent and an antioxidant and a UV stabilizer and PLASTI DIP® and PLASTI DIP® UV STABLE.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of adding said silicone styrene elastomer resin mix to a solvent, said solvent selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) toluene;
- (b) xylene;
- (c) naphtha;
- (d) acetone; and
- (e) various combinations of elements of (a)-(d).

11. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

- (a) applying a polishing mix to said coated plant tissue.

12. The method of claim 11, said step of applying a polishing mix to said coated plant tissue further comprising the steps of:

- (a) draining said polished plant tissue; and
- (b) drying said polished plant tissue.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said polishing mix is composed of at least one polishing mix selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a silicone styrene elastomer resin mix; and
- (b) "F-799" PLASTI-DIP®.

09975698-101001

15
20
Sub
At
contd

steps of:

14. A method for preserving plant tissue, said method comprising the
- (a) obtaining a fresh-cut plant tissue;
 - (b) forming said fresh-cut plant tissue;
 - (c) dehydrating said formed plant tissue;
 - (d) cleaning said dehydrated plant tissue;
 - (e) saturating said cleaned plant tissue with a saturating mix;
 - (f) coating said saturated plant tissue with a coating mix; and
 - (g) polishing said coated plant tissue with a polishing mix.

15. A preserved plant tissue, said preserved plant tissue comprising:
- (a) a dehydrated plant tissue;
 - (b) a means for saturating;
 - (c) said plant tissue being subjected to said means for saturating to form a saturated plant tissue;
 - (d) a means for coating; and
 - (e) said saturated plant tissue being subjected to said means for coating to form a coated plant tissue.

tissue comprising:

16. The dehydrated plant tissue of claim 15, said dehydrated plant
- (a) a fresh-cut plant tissue;
 - (b) a means for forming said fresh-cut plant tissue;
 - (c) said fresh-cut plant tissue being subjected to said means for forming to form a formed plant tissue;
 - (d) a means for dehydrating said formed plant tissue;
 - (e) said formed plant tissue being subjected to said means for dehydrating to form a dehydrated plant tissue;
 - (f) a means for cleaning said dehydrated plant tissue; and

- (g) said dehydrated plant tissue being subjected to said means for cleaning to form a cleaned plant tissue.

5 17. The coated plant tissue of claim 15, wherein said coated plant tissue is further subject to:

- (a) a means for polishing said plant tissue; and
(b) said plant tissue being subjected to said polishing means to form a polished plant tissue.

10 18. A preserved plant tissue, said preserved plant tissue comprising:

- (a) a fresh-cut plant tissue;
(b) a means for forming said fresh-cut plant tissue;
(c) said fresh-cut plant tissue being subjected to said means for forming to form a formed plant tissue;
15 (d) a means for dehydrating said formed plant tissue;
(e) said fresh plant tissue being subjected to said means for dehydrating to form a dehydrated plant tissue;
(f) a means for cleaning;
(g) said dehydrated plant tissue being subjected to said means for
20 cleaning to form a cleaned plant tissue;
(h) a means for saturating;
(i) said cleaned plant tissue being subjected to said means for saturating to form a saturated plant tissue;
(j) a means for coating;
25 (k) said saturated plant tissue being subjected to said coating means to form a coated plant tissue;
(l) a means for polishing; and
(m) said coated plant tissue being subjected to said means for polishing to form a polished plant tissue.